

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
STATE OF WYOMING
RECEIVED

FEB 12 2015

IN THE MATTER OF THE NOTICE
OF VIOLATION ISSUED TO:

Mr. Steve Palmer
Gannett Group, Inc.
PO Box 589
Lander, WY 82520-0589

WATER QUALITY DIVISION
WYOMING

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SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Water Quality Division (WQD), and Gannett Group, Inc. (Gannett) a company authorized to do business in Wyoming, enter into this Settlement Agreement to fully and finally resolve without litigation the violation alleged in Notice of Violation (NOV) Docket Number 5453-14 issued August 15, 2014. The violations occurred in Fremont County, Wyoming.

W.S. §35-11-901(a)(ii) authorizes the DEQ to negotiate a stipulated settlement, including payment of a penalty and corrective actions, in lieu of litigation. To that end, Gannett and the DEQ hereby stipulate and agree as follows:

1. The DEQ, pursuant to W.S. §35-11-104, is a department in the executive branch of the state government of Wyoming and is principally situated in Cheyenne, Wyoming. DEQ is the agency with the responsibility for administering the Wyoming Environmental Quality Act (Act) including all provisions of the Wyoming Water Quality Rules and Regulations (WWQRR).
2. Gannett has provided the DEQ with documentation demonstrating the steps taken to address the alleged violations covered by this NOV, including the ongoing operational programs designed to prevent violations in the future.
3. Gannett agrees to pay a total of one thousand nine hundred twenty dollars and no cents (\$1,920.00) as a stipulated penalty. Payment to the DEQ is due within thirty (30) days of the full execution of this Settlement Agreement and shall be by check made payable to the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division. Payment should be sent to Mr. Kevin M. Wells, Natural Resource Program Supervisor, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division, Herschler Building 4th Floor-West, 122 West 25th Street, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002. The check should reference NOV Docket Number 5453-14.
4. Gannett's full compliance with the terms of this signed settlement agreement shall constitute satisfaction for and resolution of all claims by the DEQ against Gannett based upon the specific allegations in NOV docket number 5453-14. Contingent upon Gannett's compliance with the terms of this Settlement Agreement, the DEQ will refrain from taking further enforcement action against Gannett for these particular violations.
5. Gannett waives any statute of limitations which may apply to an enforcement action by the DEQ involving the specific matters described in NOV Docket Number 5453-14 in the event that Gannett fails to fulfill its obligations under this Settlement Agreement.
6. Nothing in this agreement precludes DEQ from taking additional enforcement action, including the issuance of a NOV, Order, and/or pursuing additional penalties, should Gannett violate the Act, applicable rules and regulations, or WYPPDES permit requirements in the future.
7. This settlement agreement represents a good faith settlement and resolution of the NOV in lieu of litigation and shall not constitute or be construed as an admission by Gannett or a retraction by DEQ of the specific allegations in NOV docket number 5453-14.

8. This Settlement Agreement shall be admissible by either party without objection by the other party in any subsequent action between these parties to enforce its terms.

9. Notwithstanding any other language in this Settlement Agreement, the State of Wyoming and DEQ do not waive sovereign immunity by entering into this Settlement Agreement with Gannett and specifically retain all immunity and all defenses available as sovereigns under state and federal law.

10. Each party shall bear its own attorney fees and costs, if any, incurred through the date this Settlement Agreement is signed by both parties.

11. Gannett and the DEQ agree to comply with and be bound by the terms of this agreement and further agree they will not contest the basis or validity of this Settlement Agreement in any action taken by DEQ to enforce the terms of this Settlement Agreement. Therefore this Settlement Agreement is binding upon Gannett, its successors and assigns, and upon the DEQ.

12. The persons signing this Settlement Agreement certify that they are duly authorized to bind their respective parties to this Settlement Agreement. Full execution of this Settlement Agreement shall be determined by the latest date of all parties signing.

FOR: Gannett Group, Inc.

Signed: 

Typed: Steve K. Palmer

Title: President

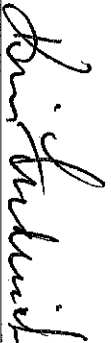
Date: 2-10-2015

FOR THE WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY:



Date: 2/21/15

Todd Parfitt
Director
Department of Environmental Quality



Date: 1-30-15

Kevin Frederick
Administrator
DEQ/Water Quality Division

TP/KF/KMW/bb/15-0059

cc: Kacy Sable, 8ENF-W-NP, EPA Region 8 (PDF)
Bill J. DiRienzo ► Kevin M. Wells (PDF)
IPS (for scanning) ► Docket 5453-14
Landon Brown, DEQ Admin (PDF File of signed copy by all parties)
Connie Osborne, DEQ Admin (Hard Copy of signed copy by all parties)